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(Amended) A method of treating spontaneous and ongoing auto-immune diseases in mammals, comprising administering to a mammal, in need of such a treatment, a therapeutically effective amount of one or more non mitogenic anti-CD3 active [principles] compounds to achieve permanent disease remission through the induction of antigen-specific unresponsiveness, i.e. immune tolerance.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said non mitogenic anti-CD3 active [principle] compound is a [non mitogenic anti-CD3] non mitogenic anti-CD3 antibody.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said non mitogenic anti-CD3 active [principle] compound is a non mitogenic anti-CD3 monoclonal antibody.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said non mitogenic anti-CD3 active [principle] compound is a non mitogenic anti-CD3 monoclonal antibody [F(ab)₂] F(ab')₂ fragment.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said non mitogenic anti-CD3 active [principle] compound is highly purified, endotoxin-free.

10. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said auto-immune disease is [rheumatoid] rheumatoid arthritis.

13. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said active [principle] compound is administered by injectable route.

Please add the following claims:

--16. The method of claim 1, wherein said non mitogenic anti-CD3 compound is a F(ab')₂ fragment.